

## Message Text

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11/42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /070 W

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R 111607Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1511

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OLONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REF NUMBER OMITTED ON ORIGINAL)

E.O. 11652: DECONTROL AFTER ONE YEAR

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

REF: ROME 7913

SUBJECT: MORO MEETING WITH UNION LEADERS

1. PRIME MINISTER ALDO MORO'S SUDDEN DECISION TO INVITE THE LEADERS OF  
OF  
THE FEDERATION CGIL, CISL, UIL TO SUMMIT MEETING ON JUNE 9, ONE  
WEEK BEFORE THE REGIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS CAUGHT UNIONS  
AS WELL AS SOME OF HIS MINISTERS OFF GUARD. ASIDE FROM PURE ELECTORAL  
STRATEGY MORO'S INVITATION MAY SUGGEST THAT HE EXPECTS HIS CABINET  
TO CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME AFTER THE REGIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
ELECTIONS. UNION ACCEPTANCE OF THIS LAST MINUTE INVITATION CONFIRMS  
THEIR STRATEGY OF SEEKING TO INFLUENCE POLITICAL DECISIONS AS  
WELL AS ECONOMIC CHOICES. THEY HAVE SOUGHT SUCH AN ENCOUNTER FOR  
SIX MONTHS.

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2. SINCE 1969 THE UNIONS HAVE INSISTED ON THEIR RIGHT TO BE CONSULTED

REGARDING BASIC POLITICAL DECISIONS. THE POWER OF THE GENERAL STRIKE HAS INCREASINGLY BEEN USED IN THIS REGARD FOR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES RATHER THAN WAGE AND WORK CONDITION CONSIDERATIONS. SO MUCH SO THAT TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY ANY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT NOW REQUIRES THE SUPPORT OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT AS WELL AS A WORKING MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT.

3. TO EMPHASIZE THEIR DESIRE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENT THE UNIONS ALSO ACCEPTED THE SUGGESTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY THAT A STRIKE TRUCE BE HONORED DURING THE PRE-ELECTORAL PERIOD. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SEVERAL AUTONOMOUS UNIONS (TAXATION AND AIRLINE PILOTS), WHO DO NOT ACCEPT THE UNIONS OBJECTIVES OR AUTHORITY, THERE ARE THEREFORE NO STRIKES CURRENTLY PENDING UNTIL AFTER JUNE 16. THIS IS IN ITSELF A MOST EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE IN CONTEMPORARY ITALY.

4. THE JUNE 9TH MEETING PRODUCED AGREEMENT TO HOLD A NUMBER OF MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS BEGINNING ON JUNE 19 AND RUNNING THROUGH JULY 16, THE JUNE 19 MEETING WILL DEAL WITH THE CRITICAL ECONOMIC AND UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN NAPLES AND THE SURROUNDING CAMPANIA REGION. SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WILL DEAL WITH SUCH NOW STANDARD UNION COMPLAINTS AS RENEWAL OF THE AUTOMOBILE AND TRANSPORT SECTORS, ENERGY POLICY, AGRICULTURE, PUBLIC WORKS AND LOW COST HOUSING AND THE MESSOG-  
IORNO (SEE REFTEL A). VOLPE

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